

TOWN OF HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS

MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 19, 2024

6:30 pm MEETING CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

Mayor Ray Tinkum, Trustee Richard Gott, Trustee Tim Harvey, Trustee Kathy Knight, Trustee Dan Nolan, Trustee Stacey Paulson, Trustee Annie Stiefel: *All present*

1. CONSENT AGENDA

Agenda for December 19, 2024 and meeting minutes from November 21, 2024

- i. *Motion made by Trustee Dan Nolan to accept the agenda for December 19, 2024 with an amendment to the agenda to include discussion of Resolution 2024-12-01 and the ensuing action item and also the addition of an action item for the approval of \$25,000 of Conservation Trust Funds for the GOCO application for tennis court renovation; and meeting minutes from November 21, 2024; seconded by Trustee Stacey Paulson. All voted aye; motion carried.*

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Town Clerk / Treasurer Katie LaDrig presented the Board with the United Business Bank statement from November 2024. The United Business Bank account is averaging a balance of \$170,000 every month. COLO Trust November 2024 statement was also presented. Accounts payables were presented to the board. The Revenues with Comparison to Budget was given out with a question as to why the water fund and sewer fund expenditures are so much higher than revenue. This is due to the 4th Quarter billing that does not go out until the end of December, which will raise the revenue substantially. The credit card statement for the month of November was presented.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

4. STAFF AND COMMUNITY PLANNING STRATEGIES UPDATES

Public Works Department: The BOLL Filter has been installed and there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony tentatively scheduled for January 15, 2024 at 10:00am. Invitations will be given to SkyHi News, DOLA, County Commissioners and the Board of Trustees members. Streets and Parks department has been cleaning roads and working on equipment. All reports for the Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater Facility have been filed with the state agencies, as required. An electrical outage the previous week caused a catastrophic failure of the VFDs (Variable Frequency Drives) to fail. CIRSA, the insurance company was contacted and sent out a forensic technician to view the damage. A temporary solution made it possible to provide oxygen to the lagoons until our engineer could supply a solution until new VFDs can be installed. The cost to replace both VFDs is approximately \$10,500. The “loaner” VFD can be purchased for \$6,000 in order to have a backup for the future, or rented for \$500 per month until the new VFDs are installed. Town Clerk Katie LaDrig explained that CIRSA would not honor our insurance claim through them, however, because extra insurance was purchased by the Town Clerk the previous year for Equipment Breakdown coverage through CHUBB, another insurance company, the VFDs would be covered under that policy. CHUBB is also willing to pay half of the cost of the loaner VFD. It was recommended that the Town purchase the loaner VFD in order to have a spare in the future. Monthly grant meetings continue to explore other grants to pursue. Work continues on the Project Needs Assessment with Swiftwater Solutions.

Town Hall: A grant has been applied for to replace the old signs down at Pioneer Park through the Grand County Tourism Board. We are looking into getting a new internet provider due to the cost of our current service. The Mill Levy Tax Certification was submitted and approved. The Board of County Commissioners will be receiving a copy next week. Our website has been down but will be back up and running in the next couple of days, due to a variety of issues. We are getting ready to go live with Campspot, which will be our provider for Pioneer Park campground reservation moving forward. Wendy Bourn – grant applications update: Katie LaDrig spoke on this subject – Staff is in the process of training on the new website and for website content. We are on schedule to unveil the new website mid-February.

CPS/TJ Dlubac: Inquiries continue regarding general permits and annexations. One particular property is interested in annexing at some point. 320 Colorado property owners are planning on submitting an annexation agreement in the near future. Also,

new property owners of Maggie Hill are interested in annexing in and this would require an agreement between the Town and the property owners to allow them to annex as part of the Town while using well water and septic. The Ordinance lifting the first Moratorium is set to end and will be brought up at the next board meeting. New laws going into effect in the state of Colorado are being watched and as mandates become clear, the board will be kept up-to-date by Community Planning Strategies.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- a. Board of Trustees training: With the new board of trustees members, it has been suggested by our attorney that we hold a training. This will be mandatory for all trustees and the best time to hold this training looks like it would be around the end of January. The training can be given by Colorado Municipal League or by our attorney, Chris Price. The training held by CML is an all day training and can be done in-person or online. Discussion ensued. The consensus of the board was to have our attorney deliver the training and Katie LaDrig will reach out to Chris Price to coordinate with a date of the beginning of March being the best time for all concerned.
- b. Approval of \$25,000 of Conservation Trust funds for tennis court GOCO application: Dan Nolan addressed the Board regarding the grant that is being pursued to rehabilitate the basketball court and tennis court and to add pickleball courts. GOCO does require some type of match for this grant. The Grand County Commissioners agreed to give the Town \$25,000 out of their Conservation Trust Funds to this endeavor. Dan is asking the board to allot \$25,000 in addition to that money, using CTF funds.
- c. Recreation Survey Report: Dan Nolan gave a synopsis of the surveys that were received by residents regarding the grants that the Town has been looking to apply for. 89% of survey respondents supported the tennis/pickleball courts while only 62% supported the white water wave. At this time, the Town will pursue just the grant for the tennis court/pickleball courts.
- d. Appointment of Mayor pro-tem: Discussion ensued regarding Trustee Annie Stiefel volunteering for this position. Trustee Kathy Knight feels that she does not have enough experience. Mayor Ray Tinkum supported Annie's appointment due to the time she is willing to give to the town. Kathy Knight suggested Trustee Tim Harvey and Tim respectfully declined.
- e. Discussion on sanctuary status of Town: The Mayor wanted discussion on the status of our town as a sanctuary/non-sanctuary town due to our Governor declaring Colorado a sanctuary state. The concern is without local law enforcement, the town would be left vulnerable to possible issues arising from our state being declared a sanctuary state. The Board is in agreement that our resources should not be used to shelter illegals but that we should not use resources we do not have to assist federal government actions. The Mayor will ask our attorney if we have to declare as a non-sanctuary vs. sanctuary.
- f. Performance evaluations to town staff were conducted and the Mayor listed the following requested changes to salaries:

COLA will be given to all employees in the amount of 3.34%.

Andy Hugley, seasonal part time plow operator will be given COLA only in the amount of \$1.17 to raise his salary to \$36.17 hourly.

Donald Dailey, seasonal part time Parks/Streets employee will be given COLA only in the amount of 0.67 to raise his salary to \$20.67.

Peggy Marsh, part time Administrative Assistant in Town Hall will be given COLA in the amount of 0.67 and a performance raise in the amount of \$2.33 to raise her salary to \$23.00.

Bill LaDrig, Streets/Parks Supervisor will be given COLA in the amount of \$1.07 and a performance raise in the amount of \$1.43 to raise his salary to \$34.50.

Trustee Annie Stiefel questioned the salary difference between Bill and Andy. Trustee Stacey Paulson disagreed with the final amount of \$34.50. Motion was made by Trustee Stacey Paulson to increase Bill's raise to \$36.00 per hour; seconded by Trustee Annie Stiefel. No objections were made.

Katie LaDrig, Town Clerk and Treasurer will be given COLA in the amount of \$1.15 and a performance raise in the amount of \$3.35 to raise her salary to \$39.00. *Trustee Annie Stiefel wanted to give more, discussion ensued with Trustee Kathy Knight pointing out that town clerks throughout Colorado get an average of \$26.00. Point was made that she handles more duties than just the town clerk. Point was made that she has saved the town quite a bit of money as well as getting the 1.3 million from Congressman Neguse. Motion was made to raise her salary to \$40.00 per hour. No objection was raised.*

Nick Rardin, Public Works Director will be given COLA only, per his request, in the amount of \$1.50
Nick chose to take just the COLA increase in order to save the additional monies for more money for his water operator and to have money to hire a third water operator.

Michael Gramm, Water Operator will be given the COLA in the amount of \$0.94 with a performance raise of \$3.06 to raise his salary to \$32.00.
This raise is with the understanding that he will be receiving more money as he receives his certifications.

6. OPEN ACTION ITEMS

- a. Grand Places 2050: No information at this time.
- b. Crosswalk across Highway 40: No information at this time.

7. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Accounts payable in the amount of: \$47,658.53
 - i. *Motion was made by Trustee Tim Harvey to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$47,658.53, seconded by Trustee Stacey Paulson; All voted aye; motion carried.*
- b. Payroll in the amount of:

11/04/24 – 11/17/2024	\$ 12,141.00
11/18/24 – 12/01/2024	\$ 12,322.38

 - i. *Motion was made by Trustee Stacey Paulson to approve payroll in the amounts listed above, seconded by Trustee Richard Gott. All voted aye; motion carried.*
- c. Motion to remove previous Mayor pro-tem as signatory on all bank accounts (United Business Bank and COLO Trust) as well as removal of online authorization for all bank accounts.
 - i. *Motion was made to remove previous Mayor pro-tem on all bank accounts and online authorization on all bank accounts by Trustee Stacey Paulson; seconded by Trustee Richard Gott. All voted aye; motion carried.*
- d. Motion to approve appointment of Trustee Annie Stiefel as Mayor pro-tem.
- e. Motion to approve Mayor pro-tem Annie Stiefel as signatory on all bank accounts (United Business Bank and COLO Trust) as well as approval for online authorization for all bank accounts.
 - i. *Motion was made by Trustee Stacey Paulson to approve the above listed motions; seconded by Trustee Dan Nolan. All voted aye; motion carried.*
- f. Motion to approve the expenditure of \$25,000 of Conservation Trust funds to use as a match on the grant being pursued for tennis courts/pickleball courts.
 - i. *Motion was made to approve expenditure mentioned above by Trustee Dan Nolan; seconded by Trustee Annie Stiefel. All voted aye; motion carried.*
- g. Motion to approve the purchase of two VFDs (Variable Frequency Device) to replace the ones that no longer function. This motion was made with the understanding that this cost will be reimbursed through CHUBB.
 - i. *Motion was made by Trustee Kathy Knight to approve this purchase; seconded by Trustee Tim Harvey. All voted aye; motion carried.*
- h. Motion to approve the purchase of the rental VFD for \$6,000 with half being reimbursed by CHUBB.

i. Motion was made by Trustee Tim Harvey to approve the rental of VFD for a total of 2 months, motion amended to purchase the rental VFD contingent upon CHUBB reimbursing half the cost; seconded by Trustee Richard Gott. All voted aye, motion carried.

i. Resolution 2024-12-01: Setting a building permit fee for staff time in addition to the building permit application fee.

i. Motion was made by Trustee Tim Harvey to approve Resolution 2024-12-01; seconded by Trustee Stacey Paulson. All voted aye, motion carried.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Ray Tinkum

Trustee Richard Gott

Trustee Tim Harvey – Partitions have been put up at the WTP, filing cabinets are being placed. It is a work in progress. The heater is not working properly and a solution will be investigated.

Trustee Kathy Knight

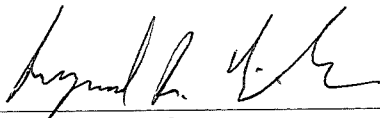
Trustee Dan Nolan

Trustee Stacey Paulson – there is a ConEx container in the vacant property next to the Paulson residence. The town clerk will look into it.

Trustee Annie Stiefel

9. ADJOURNMENT

i. Motion was made by Trustee Kathy Knight to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Tim Harvey. All voted aye; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.



Raymond R. Tinkum, Mayor



Katie LaDrig, Town Clerk/Treasurer